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BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF UNITED WATER IDAHO INC. FOR **AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES** AND CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE IN THE STATE OF IDAHO

Case No. UWI-W-15-01

JOINT MOTION TO ADOPT SETTLEMENT PROCEDURE AND APPROVE SETTLEMENT STIPULATION

COME NOW United Water Idaho Inc., ("United Water" or "Company"), the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission Staff") and the Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho ("CAPAI") the sole intervenor in this case, (collectively, "Parties") and move the Commission for an Order adopting a schedule for Settlement proceedings, and a subsequent Order approving the Settlement Stipulation filed herewith, and in support thereof respectfully show as follows, to wit:

- 1. On May 21, 2015, United Water filed an Application seeking authority to increase the Company's rates for water service in the State of Idaho by an average of 13.2%. If approved, the Company's revenues would have increased by \$5,881,308 annually. The Company requested the new rates become effective June 22, 2015.
- 2. On June 9, 2015, the Commission issued Order No. 33316, suspending United Water's proposed effective date for a period of 30 days plus five (5) months or until December 22, 2015. On July 7, 2015, the Commission issued Order No. 33334, granting CAPAI'S Petition for Intervention.
- 3. On July 22, 2015, the Commission issued Order No. 33344, establishing a procedural schedule, including a technical hearing to commence on November 19, 2015. The Order also convened a Public Workshop for August 19, 2015 and that Workshop occurred as scheduled.
- 4. After the filing of the Application, Commission Staff conducted a thorough investigation of the Company's Application. Commission Staff propounded numerous Production Requests, to which United Water provided responses.

- 5. On September 15, 2015, representatives of the Parties met to engage in settlement discussions in accordance with RP 272, with a view toward resolving the issues in this case. Although an agreement was not reached at that conference the parties continued to discuss the matter by telephone and electronic correspondence and have now reached an agreement.
- 6. Representatives of the Parties also met on September 23, 2015 to discuss revisions to United Water's Rules and Regulations.
- 7. The Company and CAPAI have also reached agreement on enhancements to the United Water Cares Program, which are set forth in the Stipulation.
- 8. Based on settlement discussions, the Parties have agreed to resolve and settle all of the issues in the case. As set out in greater detail in the attached Stipulation, the Parties have agreed to a two-step increase in rates to recover \$2.73 million (6%) in the first year, effective December 22, 2015, and \$670,000 (1.39%) in the second year, effective December 22, 2016. A copy of the signed Stipulation evidencing that settlement is attached as Attachment 1.
- 9. The Parties recommend that the Commission issue a Notice of Proposed Settlement and Order setting a 21-day public comment period and setting a public customer hearing on the Stipulation on November 19, 2015, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission hearing room.

- 10. The Parties further recommend that the Commission set a deadline of November 6, 2015 for the Parties to file testimony in support of the Stipulation, and set a technical hearing for the Parties' presentation of the Stipulation on November 19, 2015, starting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commission hearing room.
- 11. Finally, the Parties recommend, on consideration of all comments and testimony, that the Commission approve the Stipulation and the revised tariff sheets attached to the Stipulation as Exhibit A in their entirety, without material change or condition, pursuant to RP 274.
- 12. As noted in the Stipulation, the Parties agree that the Stipulation is in the public interest and that all of its terms and conditions are fair, just and reasonable.

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties respectfully request:

- 1. That the Commission issue a Notice of Proposed Settlement and Order:
 - a. setting a deadline of November 6, 2015 for the Parties' testimony in support of the Stipulation; and
 - setting a technical hearing for the Parties' presentation of the Stipulation on November 19, 2015, starting at 9:30 a.m. in the Commission hearing room; and
 - c. seeking public comments about the Stipulation with a 21-day comment period; and
 - d. setting a public customer hearing about the Stipulation for November 19,2015, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission hearing room.
- 2. Upon consideration of the Parties' testimony and the public's comments regarding the Stipulation, that the Commission enter an Order:

- a. accepting the Stipulation (Attachment 1) in its entirety, without material change or condition; and
- authorizing the Company to implement revised tariff schedules designed to recover the additional annual revenue from Idaho customers consistent with the terms of the Stipulation; and
- authorizing that revised tariff schedules be made effective December
 22, 2015 and December 22, 2016 consistent with the terms of the
 Stipulation; and
- d. approving revisions to United Water's Rules and Regulations, including those in Amendment 1 to Exhibit 2A; and
- e. granting such other relief as is proper in the circumstance.

DATED this 2 day of October, 2015.

Staff of the Idaho PUC

Daphne Huang

Deputy Attorney General

Attorney for Commission Staff

McDevitt & Miller, LLP

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Dean J. Miller

Attorney for United Water Idaho Inc.

Brad Purdy Law Office

Brad M. Purdy

Attorney for Community Action Partnership

Association of Idaho

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the game day of October 2015, I caused to be served, via the method(s) indicated below, true and correct copies of the foregoing document, upon:

Jean Jewell, Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission 472 West Washington Street P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0074 jjewell@puc.state.id.us	Hand Delivered U.S. Mail Fax Fed. Express Email	6, 6, 6, 6 , 6,
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